YOUR YARD IS A GOOD PLACE FOR LUCY’S WARBLERS!

- SWEET SINGERS: Melodic song of the males is the first sign of spring.
- BUG SNACKS: They eat lots of small insects.
- YOUR YARD CAN HELP! They can raise a family in a single yard with many native plants.
- DESERT ADAPTED: The only warbler to nest in arid Sonoran Desert.

LUCY’S WARBLERS LOVE NATIVE MESQUITE TREES!

Many mesquite trees in urban areas are from South America. Native velvet mesquite trees provide more food, are less likely to fall over during a monsoon storm, and don’t buckle up sidewalks and pavement like the non-native trees. They are by far the best choice!

Look at the leaves to see if your mesquite tree is a native tree — here is what to look for:

NATIVE TREES

- Velvet mesquite
- Honey mesquite

NON-NATIVE TREES

- Chilean mesquite
- Argentine mesquite

Illustrations courtesy of Matthew Johnson and University of Arizona Herbarium
INGREDIENTS

- SHELTER: Unless you have a large old mesquite, a nestbox is key
- HABITAT: Large or multiple native mesquite trees
- FOOD: Velvet mesquite trees attract 80 times as many tiny insects as non-native mesquite trees
- SAFETY: Keep cats indoors, they kill many birds and wildlife

PLANTS

- Velvet mesquite
- Ironwood
- Palo verde
- Fairy duster
- Sweet acacia
- Desert willow

DIRECTIONS

- Keep cats indoors. It’s safer for cats and protects wildlife.
- Avoid insecticides: warblers depend on insects for food.
- Moving water, in a fountain or drip, attracts warblers.
- Place a Lucy’s Warbler nestbox in your yard:
  - Building plans for the triangle nestbox are available online: TUCSONAUDUBON.ORG/LUCY, or nestboxes can be purchased at Tucson Audubon’s Nature Shop in-store and online.
  - Attach your Lucy’s Warbler triangle nestbox securely in or near native mesquite trees, within dense foliage or somewhere sheltered from predators.
  - Put the box as high as you safely can—higher than 6 feet—on the east or north side of the tree to avoid harsh afternoon sun.
  - Share your success! If you get a nest, email us at: NESTBOX@TUCSONAUDUBON.ORG

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